

CLAIMS:

1. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content, the system comprising a media device wherein said media device further comprises:

- a digital rights management system;

wherein said media device and digital rights management system may be utilized by a consumer to perform one or more of the following functions:

a.

- download a digital content package;
- create a license rights package to be associated with said digital content package;
- purchase said license rights package wherein said license rights package includes an account number for said consumer;
- download said license rights package to said media device;
- debit said license rights package when said consumer accesses said digital content package in accordance with a set of rights included in said license rights package;
- when said license rights package is exhausted, renew said license rights package by charging said account number contained in said license rights package;

b.

- modify said license rights package and apply a difference to said account number contained in said license rights package.

c.

- download said license rights package to said media device;

- transfer said digital content package and said license rights package to a second consumer;
 - debit said license rights package when said second consumer accesses said digital content package in accordance with a set of rights included in said license rights package;
 - modify said license rights package and apply a difference to said account number contained in said license rights package.
2. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in claim 1 wherein, when said license rights package is exhausted, said second consumer may renew said license rights package by charging said account number contained in said license rights package.
 3. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in claim 2 wherein, when said license rights package is exhausted, said second consumer may renew said license rights package by charging, at said second consumer's option, a new account number and a new license rights package will contain said new account number.
 4. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said digital rights management system may access a license storage on said media device to determine if a set of license rights exist for an access desired by said consumer.
 5. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 4 wherein said digital rights management system will not allow access to said digital content package if an associated license rights package is not available.
 6. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 5 wherein said digital rights management system will prompt said consumer to procure a license rights package if said license rights package does not exist in said license storage.
 7. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 5 wherein said digital rights management system will prompt said consumer to renew a license rights package if said license rights package has been debited enough to trigger a predetermined expiration warning.
 8. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 5 wherein said digital rights management system will prompt said consumer to procure additional rights for a license rights package if said license rights package does not include said additional rights.

9. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising:

- a rating engine;

wherein said license rights package (original license rights package) further comprises metadata which may be utilized by said rating engine to:

- calculate a cost for an additional license rights package without contemporaneously connecting to a host system; and
- create a new license rights package further comprising said account number associated with said original license rights package;
- selectively transmit a charge associated with said additional license rights package and said account number associated with said additional license rights package to said host processor.

10. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising:

- a rating engine;

wherein said license rights package (original license rights package) further comprises metadata which may be utilized by said rating engine to:

- calculate a cost for a set of additional rights in said license rights package without contemporaneously connecting to a host system; and
- modify said license rights package to include said set of additional rights;
- selectively transmit a charge associated with said additional license rights package and said account number associated with said license rights package to said host processor.

11. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 10 wherein said additional license rights package may be structured to provide rights on a per use basis.

12. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 10 wherein said additional license rights package may be structured to provide rights on a time spent basis.

13. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 10 wherein said additional license rights package may be structured to provide rights on a subscription basis.

14. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 10 wherein said additional license rights package may be structured to provide rights according to a quantum of digital content accessed basis.
15. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in Claim 10 wherein said additional license rights package may be flexibly structured to provide rights according to the preferences of a customer.
16. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content, the system comprising
 - a media device further comprising a digital rights management system and a rating engine;
 - a content server; and
 - a license serverwherein
 - said content server is configured to store and index digital content;
 - said license server is configured to store a plurality of data and algorithms to be associated with a particular set of digital content (digital content package)
 - said media device is configured to access said content server to
 - search said content server for a particular digital content package;
 - download said digital content package to said media device wherein said digital content package is further configured with an identifier; and
 - said media device is configured to
 - access said license server;
 - access a set of data and algorithms associated with said selected digital content package via said identifier;
 - create a license rights package for said downloaded digital rights;
 - charge said license rights package to an account associated with a consumer procuring said license rights package;
 - incorporate said account number in said license package for future charges;
 - download said license rights package to said media device; and
 - said digital rights management system
 - confirms a license rights package exists when said consumer attempts to access said digital content package on said media device;
 - if a desired access is included on said license rights package; said digital rights management system debits said license package for said desired access and permits said access.
17. A computer-implemented system for accessing digital content as claimed in claim 16 said digital rights management system is further configured so that if a desired access is not included in said license rights package, said digital rights management system prompts said consumer to renew or extend said license rights package by charging a

renewal or extension to said account number associated with the inadequate license rights package.